



**The Holy Martyr Sophia and Her Three Daughters  
Faith, Hope, and Love  
Whom the Holy Church Celebrates on September 17.**

These Saints were from Italy and contested for the Faith about the year 126, during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian. Faith was twelve years old, Hope, ten, and Love, nine; each was tormented and then beheaded, from the eldest to the youngest. Their mother Sophia mourned at their grave for three days, where she also fell asleep in peace: because of her courageous endurance in the face of her daughters' sufferings, she is also counted a martyr. The name Sophia means "wisdom" in Greek; as for her daughters' names, Faith, Hope and Love (Charity), they are *Pistis*, *Elpis* and *Agape* in Greek and *Vera*, *Nadezda*, and *Lyubov* in Russian.

*Dismissal Hymn First Tone*

**S**AVE, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

*Kontakion of the Feast. Fourth Tone  
Original Melody*

**T**HOU Who wast raised up on the Cross of Thine own will, O Christ our God, do Thou bestow Thy compassions upon this, Thy new commonwealth named after Thee. Gladden with Thy sovereign might our most Orthodox Hierarchs, and vouchsafe them victory over every false teaching; and as Thy help in war may they possess the weapon of peace, the trophy invincible.

*Kontakion of the Saints. First Tone  
The soldiers standing guard*

**S**INCE Faith and Hope and Love were in truth sacred branches of the ven'able Sophia, the namesake of Wisdom, by grace they have shown all men that Greek wisdom is foolishness, and in contest they proved to be prizewinning victors; wherefore they received a crown that shall never perish from Christ God, the Lord of all.

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